

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
May 23, 2011

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Keane, Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Shapiro
Excused: Lindsey, Ryan, Schaefer

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2011 Special meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2011 regular meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

David Freudmann, Eastwood Road, spoke to his concerns regarding the Storrs Center parking garage, issued debt and what he believes will be a subsequent financial crisis. (Statement attached)

IV. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Hart reported that Item 5, Development Agreement – Phases 1A and 1B – Town of Mansfield, Storrs Center Alliance and Education Realty Trust, Inc., will not need to be discussed at this meeting.

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ms. Moran commented that she drove by the stone sculptures on Old Turnpike Road and while many of the structures are very interesting there are a few that are close to the road and might present a danger to cars and pedestrians. Town Manager Matt Hart stated that Public Works will address those structures.

Mr. Shapiro, noting some confusion at the last Town Meeting, suggested that in the future the moderator give the audience a primer on how to present a proper motion.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to move Item 2, Discussion with Mansfield Discovery Depot re: State Grant Funding, as the next item of business. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

Town Manager Matt Hart recognized the efforts of Gene Nesbitt as Chair of the Four Corners Water and Sewer Advisory Committee. Mr. Nesbitt will be moving and has resigned from the Committee. Mayor Paterson will work with staff to prepare a proclamation for the next meeting.

By consensus the Council agreed to have the Town Manager continue to pursue plans to partner with the University of Connecticut to conduct an environmental impact evaluation (EIE) of water options to serve the Town and the University and to bring back information as it develops.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

2. Discussion with Mansfield Discovery Depot re: State Grant Funding
Executive Director of the Mansfield Discovery Depot Mary Jane Newman joined by parent and Board member Terry Berthelot and Board member Jane Goldman presented an overview of the agency's mission, philosophy, history and accomplishments. Ms. Newman reviewed the current grants and expected adjustments to those grants in the new state budget.

3. Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Mill Rate

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the following resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED: That the Tax Rate for the Town of Mansfield for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 be set at 26.68 mils, and the Collector of Revenue be authorized and directed to prepare and mail to each taxpayer tax bills in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, and that such taxes shall be due and payable July 1, 2011 and January 1, 2012.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Contract Between the State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of State Police and the Town of Mansfield, Connecticut
Town Manager Matt Hart noted the agreement in the packet references seven troopers and one supervisor, but the proposed agreement is for eight troopers and one supervisor. The agreement is for a two year period but does allow for an increase or decrease in the number of personnel.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to approve the following resolution:

Resolved, effective May 23, 2011 that the Town Manager Matthew W. Hart is hereby authorized to execute a contract on behalf of the Town of Mansfield with the Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of State Police, for the services of resident state troopers for the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2013.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Development Agreement – Phase 1A and 1B – Town of Mansfield, Storrs Center Alliance, LLC and Education Realty Trust
No action required.

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Moran commented she is pleased to see the Human Services Advisory Committee up and running.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

No reports

X. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

6. Petition re: Sculpture

7. S. Baker re: 109 Thornbush Road – The Town Manager commended the Emergency Management Staff for their efforts in assisting the Baker family.

8. D. Curtis re: Ponde Place

9. Sarah Curtis re: Ponde Place

10. Communications Advisory Committee re: Annual Town Meeting

11. E. Paterson/M. Hart re: Public Safety Committee resignation

12. M. Hart re: DPUC Investigation into the Appointment of a Third Party
Statewide Utility Telephone Pole Administrator for the State of Connecticut
13. CCM Legislative Update
14. CCM Mandates Report
15. Connecticut Clean Energy Fund – Town of Mansfield, Edwin O. Smith High
School Dedication Ceremony

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

No additions were offered.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to move into executive session to discuss the sale or purchase of real property, in accordance with CGS§1-200(6)(d) and to include in that discussion Town Manager Matt Hart, Director of Planning Gregory Padick and new Director of Planning and Economic Development Linda Painter.
Motion passed unanimously.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Sale or purchase of real property, in accordance with CGS§1-200(6) (d)

Present: Keane, Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Shapiro
Included: Town Manager Matt Hart, Director of Planning Gregory Padick and
new Director of Planning and Economic Development Linda Painter.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Town Council reconvened in regular session. Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Kochenburger seconded to adjourn.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk